



## ALAMEDA COUNTY CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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### ***Transportation Update***

***July/August 2005***

#### **California Transportation Commission Delays Release of Estimate of STIP Funding**

At its July meeting, the CTC delayed the release of the fund estimate for funds available in the 2006 State Transportation Improvement Program. The fund estimate will not be released until late September. This will delay the CMA's solicitation of candidate projects and will delay when the CMA will be required to submit them to the MTC. This delay to the STIP will also delay adoption of the CMA's final 2005 congestion management program.

#### **Federal Transportation Program Reauthorized**

In the last week of July, Congress passed the long awaited reauthorization of the federal transportation program. The bill will now go to the President for his signature. The new program will provide \$286.5 billion over six years nationwide through federal fiscal year 2009. The reauthorization continues many existing programs and creates some new programs. The bill also earmarks billions of dollars for specific projects throughout the nation. In Alameda County, 27 projects will receive approximately \$50 million. This list includes interchange improvements on I-880 at various locations, widening of I-238, an HOV lane and other improvements on I-580 in the Livermore Valley, the Smart Carpool lane on I-680, inter-modal facilities in Union City, Alameda, Emeryville, Livermore and Berkeley, and various other projects. A full list of the project earmarks will be posted on the CMA's web site after the President signs the law and the list of projects can be confirmed as accurate.

#### **CMA Awards Contracts for First Phases of Int'l/Telegraph Rapid Bus Project**

Earlier this year, the CMA issued a series of Request for Bids for equipment procurement and construction elements for the Int'l/Telegraph Rapid Bus project. The CMA's and AC Transit's goal is to deliver the transit signal priority elements of the project by June 26, 2006. At its July meeting, the CMA awarded two contracts to further this goal:

- One with Ray's Electric in the amount of \$590,170 for the Broadway segment of the project
- Another with Stieny and Company, Inc. in the amount of \$3,680,353 for the Telegraph segment of the project

Construction will start this summer and will be complete by June 2006. The bids for the E. 14<sup>th</sup>/Int'l segment of the project are due September 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **AC Transit to Seek Agreements with Cities/Caltrans on Transit Streets**

At the July CMA Board meeting, AC Transit provided a status report on its Rapid Bus program. AC Transit envisions this program growing to include several corridors throughout its service area. In addition, AC sees other trunk lines as critical to its core system. Buses by their nature, unlike BART, must share the road with other uses such as autos and bikes. Street rights of way also accommodate other community interests such as business activity, recreation and pedestrians. Because AC is expecting to invest several tens of millions of dollars in the rapid bus program, it believes early dialog with the owners of the streets – the

cities, Caltrans, etc. – is critical. AC is proposing agreements on what it calls transit streets – the core system. These agreements would outline a process for early dialog and agreement on future changes to the profile of these streets. At the CMA's July meeting AC reviewed this concept and indicated that it will be approaching each city on this matter.

### **Draft Congestion Management Program Released for Comment**

At its July meeting, the CMA Board released its draft 2005 CMP for review and comment. The draft includes changes to several sections. The investment chapter is awaiting a STIP fund estimate from the California Transportation Commission. A final CMP will be considered after the CTC adopts the estimate of available STIP funds (see related story above).

### **FAIR Lanes Study Wraps up**

In July the CMA received a presentation on the findings of the FAIR lanes study in the I-580 and I-680 corridors. The concept is a variation on the operation of high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes. HOT lanes permit single occupant vehicles to use the carpool lane for a fee. Carpools, vanpools and busses would still go free. The FAIR lanes concept would allow drivers using regular freeway lanes to earn credits for use of the HOT lanes. The investigation studied providing the credit to all drivers and to just low income drivers. The study found that, while HOT lanes are supported and practical in the two corridors, the FAIR lanes concept is not supported by the general public and is complicated to implement.

### **TFCA and Federal Funding At Risk Reports Available**

The Quarterly At Risk report for projects programmed with Transportation Fund for Clean Air and federal funds is available at the CMA offices or on the CMA's web site. This report indicates which projects need attention in order to meet deadlines.

### **Deadlines to Note**

#### 2006 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

<i>Call for new projects (delayed)</i>	<i>tbd</i>
<i>New Project Submittal Due</i>	<i>tbd</i>
<i>Draft Program Adopted by CMA</i>	<i>tbd</i>
<i>Final Program Adopted by CMA</i>	<i>tbd</i>
<i>MTC Adopts Regional Program</i>	<i>tbd</i>
<i>MTC Program submitted to CTC</i>	<i>tbd</i>

#### Lifeline Transportation Program (\$4.1 million)

<i>Call for Projects</i>	<i>November 2005</i>
<i>Draft Program</i>	<i>February 2006</i>
<i>Final Program</i>	<i>March 2006</i>

#### Congestion Management Program – 2005 Update

<i>Draft</i>	<i>July 2005</i>
<i>Final (delayed due to STIP)</i>	<i>tbd</i>

### **Upcoming Meetings**

<i>August</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>I-680 Smart Carpool Lane Policy Advisory Committee</i>
	<i>17/18</i>	<i>CTC (Sacramento)</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>CMA Technical Advisory Committee</i>
	<i>8</i>	<i>San Pablo Avenue Policy Advisory Committee</i>
	<i>9</i>	<i>Tri Valley Triangle Analysis Policy Advisory Committee</i>
	<i>12</i>	<i>CMA Administration &amp; Legislation Committee</i>
	<i>12</i>	<i>CMA Plans &amp; Programs Committee</i>
	<i>22</i>	<i>CMA Board Meeting</i>
	<i>28/29</i>	<i>CTC (Monterey)</i>

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